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ARMY Declass/Release Instructions On File

8 November 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Request for AQUATONE Flights (S)

**HANDLE VIA TALENT
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY**

1. I am increasingly being queried relative to Russian Army concentrations and as to troop movements in the Satellite areas. These queries come not only from the top level Army Staff but also from the top levels of other government agencies.

2. Incoming cables, newspapers, and other media are filled with rumors and purported evidence of Russian troop concentrations in Czechoslovakia; 15 to 17 Russian divisions in Hungary; 20 to 40 Russian divisions massing on the Polish border; calling up of reserve officers in areas adjoining Finland, Poland, and the Baltic Sea; concentration of troops in Bratislava near the Austrian border; movement of all Rumanian railway cars out of Austria via Yugoslavia; tanks landing in Varna and Burgas (Black Sea ports of Bulgaria); troops massing in Bulgaria; and others.

3. Early warning indications of attack are needed immediately by the U. S. Army. The Army must know now if the purported movements and concentrations are bluffs or actual preparations for an all-out attack. I strongly urge that all sources of intelligence be exploited to the utmost to confirm or deny these reports. I therefore request that the most serious consideration be given to the immediate resumption of reconnaissance flights, not only over Hungary but over the other European Satellites and Russia as well.

(sgd) Robert A. Schow

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